

### **Dear San Diego County Taxpayer:**

In 2004, your tax bill received its first major "make-over" in more than half a century. The 2004 tax bill incorporated many ideas and suggestions from thousands of San Diego County taxpayers and represented a major effort to present all tax bills in a more user-friendly manner.

This year, we are pleased to introduce "The Road Map" to understanding your property tax bill. The Road Map is a guide designed to offer taxpayers assistance in reviewing and understanding their annual tax bills.

On the front page of *The Road Map*, there are brief descriptions of 12 key areas on the face of the tax bill. On the back of *The Road Map*, there is a colored pie chart showing how your tax dollars are allocated. There is also important information regarding methods of payment, *Property Tax Postponement* and *Assistance* programs for senior citizens and blind/disabled persons.

Please feel free to contact us with any suggestions or ideas about our annual bill or for any assistance at: <a href="https://www.sdtreastax.com">www.sdtreastax.com</a> or on our toll free line: 1-877-829-4732.

We look forward to serving you.

### Dan Mcallister

San Diego County Treasurer-Tax Collector

### 2007-2008 Tax Bill Improvements

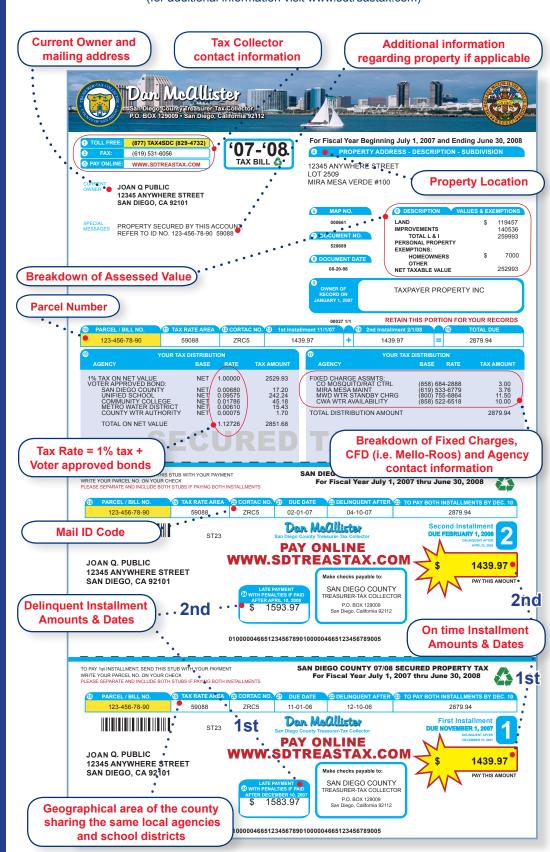
- Bill and insert on recycled printed paper
- 2. Bold "toll free" 877 phone number
- 3. New bold tax year **(2007-2008)** reference
- 4. Enlarged web site address on payment stubs
- 5. Back of tax bill authorizing "e-Billing" in the future

# The Road Map

To understanding your property tax bill

This handy guide will help you locate some important components of your tax bill.

(for additional information visit www.sdtreastax.com)





SCHOOLS 43.3% - Percentage represents disbursed monies to school

districts within the County<sup>1</sup>.

CITIES AND COUNTY IN LIEU - 8.0% represents reimbursed monies to the County and the remaining oF (VLF)<sup>2</sup> 13.3% 5.3% are reimbursed to the San Diego County Cities to replace the back fill amount received from the State in prior years<sup>2</sup>.

**COUNTY 13.2%** - Percentage supports a portion of the County's operations.

CITIES 12.4% - Percentage represents monies disbursed to all 18 cities within the County.

REDEVELOPMENT 10% - Percentage is disbursed to 59 redevelopment agencies within the County.

SPECIAL DISTRICTS 3.6 % - Percentage represents disbursed monies to approximately 76 special districts.

OF SALES & USE TAX 3.5%

CITIES AND COUNTY IN LIEU - 0.2% represents reimbursed monies to the County and the remaining 3.3% are reimbursed to the San Diego County Cities for sale and use tax resulting from the suspension of the Bradley-Burns tax rate<sup>3</sup>.

LIBRARY 0.7% - Percentage represents disbursed monies to the County Library.

NOTE: In addition to the 1% property tax established by Proposition 13, your tax bill may include levies for voter approved debt and special assessments. For more information regarding how your 1% property taxes are allocated, go to web site: www.sdcounty.ca.gov/pts Revenue for Schools has been reduced by the ERAF deficit as authorized under Senate Bill 1096, chaptered August 5, 2004.

<sup>2</sup>Represents the exchange of Property Tax for Cities and County Vehicle License Fees as authorized under Senate Bill 1096, chaptered August 5, 2004

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Represents the exchange of Property Tax for Cities and County Sales and Use Tax as authorized under Assembly Bill 1766, chaptered August 2, 2003.







NOTE: A credit card fee will be added to your tax payment based on the amount of the payment processed. These fees are imposed by the credit card provider, NOT by the County of San Diego. The fees will be disclosed prior to any transaction being processed. We cannot accept credit card transactions through the mail.



## Property Tax *Postponement* for Senior Citizens and Blind/Disabled Persons

The Property Tax Postponement law allows eligible homeowners the option of having the state pay the property taxes on their principal place of residence. To be eligible for postponement, you must (1) be either 62 years of age or older, blind, or disabled; (2) own and occupy your home as of December 31, 2006; (3) have a household income of \$31,500 or less; and (4) possess 20% equity interest in your home. The amount of taxes postponed plus accrued interest must be repaid to the State of California when the homeowner dies, sells, moves from the property or allows senior liens to become delinquent. The annual filing period for the current year taxes is May 15 through December 10, 2007. A claim must be filed each year the homeowner desires to have the property taxes postponed.

You can obtain claim forms or information regarding TAX POSTPONEMENT by contacting the California State Controller's Office Web site: www.sco.ca.gov or by calling the California State Controller's Office at: (800) 952-5661.



## Property Tax Assistance for Senior Citizens and Blind/Disabled Persons

The Gonsalves--Deukmejian--Petris Senior Citizens Property Tax Assistance Law provides direct cash assistance based on part of the property taxes paid on the homes of qualified individuals with total household incomes of \$42,770 or less who are either: (1) 62 or older, (2) blind, or (3) disabled; and a U.S. citizen or eligible alien. Claims for assistance are based on the 2007/2008 property taxes. The filing period runs from July 1, 2008 through October 15, 2008. Qualified individuals must file a claim form each year in order to receive assistance. Filing for property tax assistance will not reduce the amount of property taxes owed to the county tax collector.

You can obtain claim forms or information regarding the Homeowner and Renter Assistance Program from the California Franchise Tax Board web site: www.ftb.ca.gov or by contacting the California Franchise Tax Board at: (800) 868-4171.

Impound Information- If the enclosed bill is a copy with the notation "Copy-See Enclosed Insert," then the tax bill information was requested by a bank, mortgage company, or other agent on your behalf. If you do not have a lender or other agent paying your bill, please use the stubs on the enclosed copy to pay the bill yourself. If you refinance your loan, you may become responsible for paying the bill yourself.